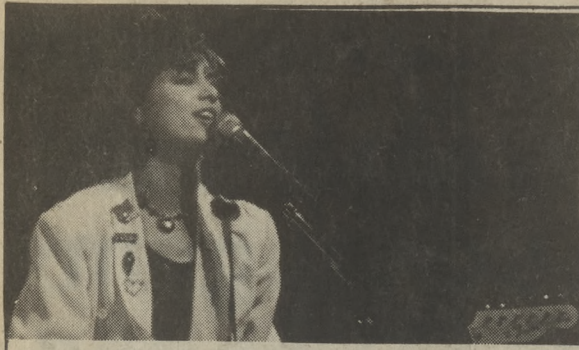


3-21-85



Bangles
drum
a '60s
beat

See page 2

Club Day Today
Monarch Square
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Women's
softball
falls

See page 4



Valley Star

Los Angeles Valley College

Thursday, March 21, 1985

Vol. 36 No. 24

Club Day slated for today

By SEAN MONAGHAN, Staff Writer

Get ready. Here they come. Yes, you guessed it, Club Day is upon us again. Today at 11 a.m., 27 clubs representing approximately 500 students are set to invade Monarch Square.

"The clubs will have shows, booths, games, and other interesting displays," said Frank Tullo, president of the Associated Student Union (ASU).

"Happiness is" has been selected by the ASU senate as the theme for Club Day this year. Last year Club Day was a Halloween carnival with kissing booths, food sales, and a dance show, Tullo said.

"The clubs will be judged in different categories this year," said Dirk Starksen, vice president of the ASU. "The categories are display and entertainment, food, and theme interpretation. First prize is \$35, second prize \$25, and third prize is \$15.

"A 'Best of Show' prize will also be awarded," he continued. "The winner of that category will be determined by a vote of the ASU senators. All other award winners will be determined by a panel of six impartial judges."

Starksen said he had gotten "great responses" from the clubs, and was looking forward to a good turnout.

"I'm so excited," said Dorothy Kaplan, president of Tau Alpha Epsilon (TAE) the scholastic honor society. "In the Spring 1984 semester TAE had only 4 members. We now have almost 280. I'm thrilled with our membership increase."

"Last year, TAE won the Club Day competition with a carnival booth and fortune teller. This year however, I have a more subdued booth scheduled, possibly a book sale and low-cost tutoring."

"MECHA will be giving away churros, selling tacos, and we will also have a trio of musicians performing at our booth," said Edgar Fregoso, president of Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano Higos Aztlan (MECHA).

Although some clubs will be competing for the first prize, others will be in the business of recruiting new members.

Victor Johnson, vice president of the Black Student Union (BSU), said he plans to, "Bring out music, and if possible perform a skit from the play *Living in Fat*, and at the same time try to increase membership and participation in the club."

"Student participation in Club Day adds a vitality to the campus life," said Pauline Merry, dean of student services. "I'm looking forward to it. I hope that Club Day will put a smile on people's faces. I think a large turnout will make a lot of people feel good."

Board candidates square off



YOUR FAULT—Challenger Howard Watts points an accusing finger past Richard Ferraro at board incumbents present at the ASU candidates' forum.

DAVID BOHRER / Valley Star

Aggressive audience, challengers put incumbents on the defensive

By RONN CROWDER, City Editor

A vociferous audience played as dominant a role as the 11 candidates who attended the ASU-sponsored candidates' forum in Monarch Hall Tuesday.

Incumbent candidates for three seats on the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Board of Trustees received the brunt of comments from dissenting spectators as they defended actions and decisions made during their terms of office.

On numerous occasions, speakers were interrupted by crowd reaction, which seemed to favor any challenging candidate who spoke against present board members.

Wallace Albertson, who holds office number six, said that the present board has done a good job in the last five years since Proposition 13 was passed.

"The problems with funding started with Proposition 13 and have continued since then," said Albertson. "There is nothing we could do about the situation. It's out of our hands."

Other incumbent candidates, who sat

together at one end of the stage, agreed with Albertson.

"The district lost 30 percent of our funding in one year," said Arthur Bronson, current president of the board.

Albertson's only opponent, Julia Catherine Wrigley, accused the incumbent of being insensitive to students' needs.

"Community colleges in Los Angeles are facing a crisis and you the students are the victims of that crisis," said Wrigley.

"The colleges need help," she added, "help that current trustees are not providing."

Wrigley pledged to be an active trustee, to fight tuition, and to improve the financial aid situation.

After opening statements by all candidates, moderator Jack Sterk, chairman of the speech department, asked for questions from the audience. Three candidates were allowed to respond to each question.

When asked why the district was in financial trouble when most districts in the state were not, Bronson replied with an

unrelated answer concerning funds from the new state lottery.

Challenger Jack Ballas, assistant city attorney for Inglewood, said immediately after Bronson's remarks, "I have heard that story before, and I don't understand it now any more than I did the first time I heard it."

"When education and politics mix," said Ballas, "neither students nor faculty will benefit."

Applause followed Ballas' remarks.

Howard O. Watts, a self-proclaimed disabled veteran running for seat number two, blamed state-imposed tuition and financial aid problems on the board of trustees.

"You aren't getting your financial aid because these three bimbos caused the problem," said Watts, gesturing toward the incumbent candidates.

Lindsay Conner, current vice president of the board, said he was proud of the job he had done, citing some of the positive

(Please See FIRE, Page 3)

Jobs become Fair game

By MARY KEELAN, Staff Writer

The first day of spring brought sunny skies, warm temperatures and a big turn-out at the Job Fair on Monarch Square yesterday.

The 40 companies, hospitals, departments and agencies had tables lining the walkways, encouraging prospective employees with brochures and pamphlets, and explaining the career opportunities available and the qualifications required.

The L.A. Fire Department displayed a fire engine while answering questions about qualifications and job risks.

"Its good pay, strenuous work and great hours," remarked firefighter Robert Gladden.

Franz Thometz, an administration of justice student at Valley College, is just one of the applicants who is hoping for a job with the fire or police departments. He said the Job Fair provided him the opportunity to "ask questions of the police officers and firemen about their jobs," and his own qualifications.

The San Fernando and L.A. Police Departments were both busy answering questions and recruiting. According to one officer, the position of reserve police officer was most popular because it is an entry-level, part-time job, and most of the applicants are still students.

"I expect to hear about a job as a

reserve police officer in a week or two," said Valley student Thien Nguyen.

The U.S. Army and Marine Corps were pushing their reserve programs, by offering brochures on training, benefits and the Army College Fund.

Federal agencies also participated in the Job Fair. The FBI informed students of the requirements for jobs from clerical and electronic positions to special agents.

The IRS offered material for jobs such as auditors and collectors.

Anna Flagg, an area resident heard about the Job Fair through a

(Please See JOB FAIR, Page 3)



MAUREEN KOCH / Valley Star

IT'S A HOT TIME—Robert Gladden, a member of L.A. City Fire Company 82, discusses the pros and cons of his profession.

'Voices' cry out for attention

By JENNIFER KONZE, Editor-in-Chief

Emerging from behind the audience, one by one, five women merge onto the stage of the Horseshoe Theatre for the Valley Theatre production of *Voices*.

Each woman has a story to tell. Each is going through a time of doubt, self-pity and circumstances.

These women, these voices, come together in the end—they become one strong reaffirmed voice.

Voices, a play by Susan Griffin, is about an abstract time period where five women go through a rough period in their lives.

In this one-act, ninety minute play, the actresses take turns giving monologues that divulge the turning point of their mental state at the time the play occurs.

Because the attention of the viewer switches from one actress to another, the time flies by very quickly.

Upon entering the Horseshoe Theatre, one cannot help but feel the mood set by the stage design—dramatic.

These rising expectations are not let down.

The lighting expertise of Pete Parkin leads the audience from one actress's monologue to the other and through the troubles they are experiencing.

The lighting highlighted the actress speaking while leaving the others in the shadows of the background, but not in the dark.

Chris Robert, Juan Alvarez, and Mike Johnston, who work the lights for the actresses, do an excellent job since each actress moves about the stage.

The finale to this play is exceptional.

The actresses criss-cross monologues as they unknowingly finish each other's sentences, forming one complete thought.

What is unusual about this play is that the women are all on stage together but never communicate, let alone acknowledge the other actresses' existence.

Their monologues are directed to the audience. Each monologue is a pick up from the previous character's train of thought.

Diane Brewster (*The Silver Cord*) portrays a middle-aged mother, Grace, whose last child has just left the "nest."

Grace is feeling doubt as to what her purpose is now that her children have left home.

Brewster's performance was very good in spite of the fact that she had a cold.

Playing Rosalinde, the care-free, barefoot and optimistic woman, Lynn Walker brings to life a type of woman that gets her experiences through care-free travel and adventure. Walker, whose real-life mother is Diane Brewster, put in a great performance.

Paula Zinn (*Nuts*) portrays the aging actress Kate. This character, along with Grace and Rosalinde, has very little monologue time. It also seemed as if Kate doesn't have a whole lot to say anyway.

Kate is reflecting on a few mistakes in her life, but she says she would do it all over again. Zinn's performance was good.

The best performances came from the newcomers to Valley's stage—Christina Colligan and Kathy Pruneda.

The reason these actresses stood out among the others was that not only was the acting superb, but their characters are more defined. Also, Colligan and Pruneda had the longer monologues.

Colligan portrayed the independent revolutionary-activist Maya.

Maya, a single mother, voices fire and humor. Her purpose is not new, but her personal outcome is different.

As the suicidal Erin, Pruneda makes the viewer feel as though there should be some way to help, some way to stop her from this suicidal course she is taking.

Erin has lived a long life in such a

short time. Her brother is dead, her mother has gone insane, and her father doesn't care.

One of Erin's monologues lasted about 15 minutes.

But the voices ring out, and all the women reaffirm their beliefs in life, love and what they feel is the meaning of happiness.

Voices is playing tonight through Saturday in the Horseshoe Theatre.



PAST VOICES—Kate (Paula Zinn) reflects on her past in 'Voices.'

Prehistoric infant featured in 'Baby'

By LISA COLLINS, Staff Writer

If sad stories of maternal love combined with adventure are your fancy, then watch for *Baby...Secret of the Lost Legend*.

Baby is an adventure fantasy film in which a paleontologist and her husband become the "surrogate parents" of a baby brontosaurus in an African jungle.

The adventure begins when another doctor captures the mother of the pre-historic hatchling. Determined to reunite the brontosaurus, George and Susan Loomis (William Katt, Sean Young) tromp through the jungle to save the mother from the ruthless paleontologist who will stop at nothing to claim the find as his own.

Though director Bill Norton's recent accomplishments (*Under Fire*, *Mean Streets*) prove he is no amateur, *Baby* seems to be an amateurish film. The script is an unprofessional attempt to deal with an unworkable concept. The special effects are ineffective and a complete rip-off of the old children's television series *Land of the Lost*.

The film is shot in a West African jungle with breathtaking scenery. But often the scenes look too controlled, having no interaction with their surroundings at all. The main characters have only two brief confrontations with any so-called wild animals, yet are supposed to be in a dangerous jungle off the Ivory Coast.

But some scenes are sad enough to bring tears to the viewer's eyes. The baby dinosaur is cute and cries real tears when his father is killed and his mother drugged. That is the most effective part in the movie. Unfortunately, it is the only effective part.

Young plays a strong-willed, career-minded woman. Her role could have been stronger if she believed in the part.

In scenes with her mentor Dr. Eric Kiviak (Patrick McGouhan), her acting was fine. Perhaps his influence helped her along, but without him she doesn't seem to have very much emotion.

Katt's part as an unemployed sports writer who is in Africa only to be with his wife, is well acted. All he needs is someone who can really act opposite him.

The deranged, murderous villain Kiviak is the best actor, and therefore the best character in the movie. McGouhan is marvelous in his well-written part, and one really feels he is the terrible man he plays.

"Baby" is not a bad film, but I would not recommend it to anyone but children. The sound and clarity of the shots are perfect, but the movie is just too much like a Saturday morning television show to engross an adult audience.



BIG BABY—Susan Loomis (Sean Young) and friend look on as George Loomis (William Katt) prepares for a long journey in *Baby*.

Birthday celebration for Bach scheduled today

By ASHLEY ST. JON, Staff Writer

Valley College students can celebrate Johann Sebastian Bach's 300th birthday today by joining the music department for a "Bach's Lunch" in Monarch Square.

Bach (1685-1750), a German composer known for his organ music, preludes and fugues (works which have been transposed to other instruments such as the violin and piano), was honored last weekend with a performance at Yale University of 30 recently discovered preludes. The preludes, which were written by the composer when he was in his early twenties, were found in the

Yale library and have never been performed as far as anyone knows.

The birthday party and performance will begin at 11 a.m., and everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch and party hats.

Dr. Eleanor Hammer, Valley music professor, will perform selected Bach works on the organ, and the Valley College Concert Choir will sing other Bach compositions.

The party will conclude with the singing of "Happy Birthday" and the serving of punch and birthday cake.

'Mask' reveals an inspirational gem

By STEPHANIE A. STASSEL, Assoc. News Editor

Mask is a movie of inspiration, pride, and courage. Based on a true story, it grabs your heart with the first scene, and holds on past the ending credits.

Rocky Dennis, played magnificently by Eric Stoltz (*The Wild Life*), has a disfiguring congenital disease called craniodiaphyseal dysplasia, which causes calcium to deposit at an abnormal rate throughout his skull.

One in 22 million babies are born with the disease, which has distorted Rocky's face. His small eyes are extremely wide-set on a face two times the normal size, and his nose has no bridge.

The story focuses on Rocky and his heroic efforts to deal with the disease. He is made fun of by almost everyone, but in time he wins them over with his charismatic personality.

He attends a "regular" school, and much to his counselors' surprise, receives top honors at his junior high graduation.

Rocky's biggest supporter and main coach is his mother, Rusty,

played by Cher (*Silkwood*). Rusty is a biker who has had a rough life. The bikers she hangs out with are basically a harmless group who spend most of their time riding motorcycles and throwing parties. They accept Rocky and defend him whenever someone begins mocking.

Sam Elliott (*Lifeguard*) plays Gar, Rusty's long-time lover who comes back into her life to rekindle their relationship and to spend time with Rocky. He is one of the many "father figures" in Rocky's life.

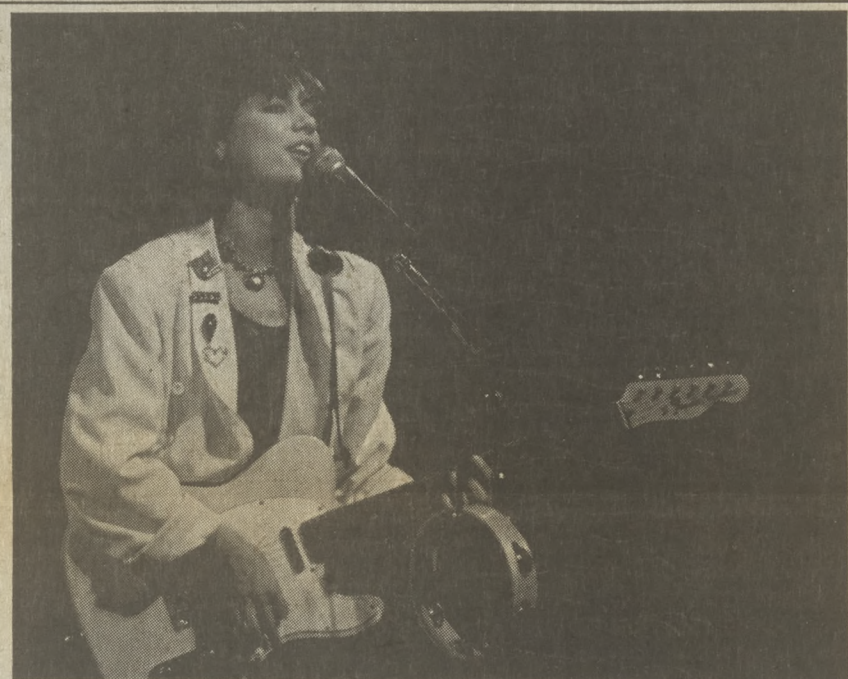
One of the most moving parts is when Rocky goes to Camp Bloomfield, (sponsored by the Foundation for the Junior Blind). There he meets a blind girl, Diana, played by Laura Dern (*Teachers*), and experiences his first love.

It is touching to see how the two complement each other. Rocky teaches her the meaning of colors by using objects of various temperatures. She, in turn, gives Rocky the romantic relationship that has always seemed out of his reach.

Perhaps the most outstanding aspect of *Mask* is Rocky's makeup, designed and developed by Michael Westmore, who used the boy's school photos as reference. Stoltz and Westmore spent four hours in makeup each day, building the mask that was so essential to the credibility of the film. The time and effort definitely paid off.

Peter Bogdanovich scores high with his direction. It is a well-deserved success.

The power of *Mask* will cause many to remember it forever. It gives inspiration to all by showing the magnitude of devotion it takes to overcome such a disease.



NOT JUST ANOTHER PRETTY FACE—Susanna Hoffs of the Bangles plays at a recent Magic Mountain performance.

Bangles bring '60s sound back to L.A.

By STEVE PETERS, Entertainment Editor

After a lengthy tour of Europe, the Bangles returned to their own stomping grounds Saturday night to deliver a fiery set of their Sixties revivalist music.

The all-girl Los Angeles-based band ripped through songs from their EP and debut album "All Over The Place," compelling an enthusiastic Magic Mountain audience to stand during the entire hour-long performance.

The Bangles music incorporates the feminine charm of The Go-Gos with the musical substance of bands like the Beatles.

This irresistible hybrid sparked Saturday's show with the energy and drive such a combination is likely to evoke.

Guitarist Susanna Hoffs fronts the band, but that doesn't keep co-Bangles Michael Steele, Vicki Peterson and Debbie Peterson from sharing the lead vocals. All of the Bangles sing lead in at least one song, and their voices are good enough to carry all the songs if necessary.

Vicki Peterson pumps out distorted chords mercilessly, while sister Debbie equals her ferocity on drums.

Steele, the newest Bangle, fits the band like a glove and provides strong, solid bass lines.

The Bangles may be pretty, but their infectious, danceable music overshadows their good looks. With their tight performing skills, the Bangles rank high as one of L.A.'s best live bands.

Young thespians ready to act

By STEVE PETERS, Entertainment Editor

High school students from all over Los Angeles County will participate in the 23rd Annual High School One-act Festival next week here at Valley College.

Over a dozen high schools are scheduled to compete in the show, which will take place next Monday through Friday evenings.

"It's a fun time," said cinema arts professor Peter Mauk. "The kids come in and they get to know each other."

The competition gives young thespians a chance to meet other students as well as Valley instructors.

"We as a faculty here meet the

instructors and the students, and to be very honest, try to get them to come to Valley," Mauk said.

Mauk said that this year's festival is "not quite as large as it has been in the past," partially because financial restrictions caused last year's show to be cancelled.

"We have to start crawling before we can run again," said Mauk, who hopes future presentations will reach the size they once were.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, high schools will present one-hour plays to be judged by industry professionals.

Each day, choices for best actor,

best actress, best supporting actor, best supporting actress and best play are made.

Finals in all of these categories are held on Friday.

High schools scheduled to participate are:

Monday, March 26th—Glen-dora, Pilgrim, University, Fairfax, Simi Valley and Chatsworth.

Tuesday, March 27th—Mission Viejo, Canoga Park, Grant and Palisades.

Wednesday, March 28th—San Gabriel, Polytechnic, Palos Verdes, Marymount and Taft.

For more information, call (818) 781-1200 ext. 352.

DO YOU KNOW...

...that Lenny Bruce, comedian and social satirist, was Jewish?

...that Jan E. Matzeliger, inventor of the shoe lasting machine, which was purchased by the United Shoe Machinery Company of Boston and effectively reduced the cost of manufacturing shoes by over fifty percent, was a black man?

...that over the past nine years more than seventy percent of Raul Rodriguez float creations have been major award winners, including seven grand prizes and eight sweepstakes awards? In the 1980 Rose parade alone, eight of his entries won banner awards.

...that Anna Fisher, first American woman in space, blasted forever the myth that a serious career and motherhood can not effectively mix?

—ACU Commissioners

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Caucasian elected president of BSU; hopes for reaction

By DAVID R. WESTFALL, Staff Writer

Tim McReynolds, a Caucasian, was named President of the Black Student Union (BSU) March 14, and he is not altogether happy about it. The BSU, which represents 34 members, was "resurrected" from its inactivity this semester at Valley College.

McReynolds's major concern is the apathy on campus and in the BSU. Of the 34 members, he said only six have taken any interest beyond simply signing up. He said he cannot understand why the other members never show for meetings.

The ethnic breakdown of the six active members is two blacks and four whites, leaving the white constituency clearly in the majority.

McReynolds said that this level of inactivity by blacks, to which he attributes his election to the office of president of the club, troubles him deeply.

McReynolds hopes his election to the office will provoke some reaction on campus. He said that any reaction is better than the lack of involvement he currently sees.

McReynolds said the BSU motto, borrowed from the civil rights movement of two decades ago, is "give a damn." He said he wants to see sincere involvement by blacks in

the BSU, and would gladly step down if blacks were to become active and ask for black representation in the office of president.

Victor Johnson, who is vice president of the BSU and black, said he is currently attempting to determine the specific causes of the apathy, and is conducting a survey to find the answers he needs.

Johnson said that representation of blacks is also available through the Black Ethnic Studies Commission of the Associated Student Body.

McReynolds and Johnson both agreed that blacks could benefit from membership in the BSU by getting involved with themselves, with their past, with the educational process of exchanging ideas, and with the functioning of governmental bodies.

Johnson added that the opportunity existed to learn black history from a black point of view, and that a scholarship could be available through the Associated Student Body.

Both McReynolds and Johnson said they wanted more students to get involved with the issues facing them, and to take an active stand in the fight for the survival of Valley College and its programs.



HEAD OF THE CLASS—Newly-elected Black Student Union president Tim McReynolds hopes for more involvement among the black student body. LARRY TYNAN / Valley Star

Fire flies at Candidates' Forum

(Continued from page 1)

accomplishments of the board.

"We've tried to stretch our dollars as far as possible by cutting administrative costs where appropriate, by purchasing instead of leasing equipment where appropriate, and by making community service courses self-supporting," said Conner.

Conner said that he supported a "new funding system that would make more sense than the enrollment-based system we now have."

Joseph F. Kehoe, educational writer for the *Newhall Signal* and former editor-in-chief of the *Valley Star*, criticized by opponent Conner saying present board members were insensitive to needs of students.

"What we need these days is leadership, not management," said Kehoe.

"The level of fiscal insensitivity in Sacramento is matched—if not surpassed—by the level of incompetence of our trustees here at home."

Applause also followed Kehoe's remarks.

Retired assistant dean of administration Kenneth Palmer offered students a set of questions.

"Are the classes you need available when you need them?" said Palmer.

"Will you be able to finish a two-year program in two years?"

"Do the classes you take prepare you for more advanced classes?"

"Will you be equipped to compete when you leave this college?"

"Are you content that it costs about the same to run the central administrative offices as it does to run Valley College?"

The crowd again responded with vocal applause.

Opposing Bronson for seat number two, Richard Ferraro said that the financial aid situation was "appalling."

Ferraro, an active political figure who sat on the L.A. Unified School Board, opposes the AFT.

"Conveniently all the incumbents are supported by the AFT guild," said Ferraro.

Clydel Hill, who opposes Conner for office number four arrived late and took his place on stage. He apologized, saying he was a student at UCLA and had to turn in a paper.

"I am a student and I know what you people are going through," said Hill. "The funding problems caused by Proposition 13 should have been dealt with years ago. Instead of excuses, we should be getting results."

During the candidates' closing remarks, audience

member Sharon Rogers approached the stage demanding to be heard.

"The financial aid system is downright unfair!" shouted Rogers. "The damned system stinks! How is someone supposed to get by when you can't get your money?"

Campaign manager John Haag spoke for Sandy Blixton and Kendra Cole who were not present. Both absent candidates are members of the Peace and Freedom Party (PFP), along with Wrigley.

"We want to see an active board which takes positive action to solve problems of financial aid, funding, maintenance of campuses and other critical needs of the district," said Haag.

Candidate Jerry Zerg of Los Angeles was not present at the forum and was unavailable for comment.

In an informal luncheon after the forum, some candidates answered further questions from reporters and others who were invited by ASU.

Incumbent candidates Bronson and Conner did not attend, but were defended by Albertson, who left the luncheon early after answering a few questions.

Members of the audience felt the forum was successful, but some complaints were heard regarding the brevity of the event.

Tony Tudor, a veterans' office student worker said that in addition to the forum being too short, he didn't like some of the answers offered by candidates.

"All I heard was a lot of double-talk," said Tudor. "Especially from the incumbents. They didn't give us one straight answer. Only excuses. I, for one, didn't believe them."

"I think the people sitting on the board now should get the hell out," said Patrice Anthony, also a Valley student. "Those three on the end who sit on the board never actually answered a question. You know, it's called let's give them a round and play politician."

Dan Philbin, a disabled student, said he still had some questions that needed to be attended to.

"The forum was an unqualified success," said Frank Tullo, president of ASU. "We are proud and happy that we were able to provide the service to voters and students."

All the candidates concurred on only one issue. Students should take part in the election process by registering and voting for the candidates of their choice.

ASU organizers agreed that the event had been worthwhile and had given voters excellent exposure to the candidates and issues.

News Notes

MIDDLE EAST SPEECH

"Politics and Violence in the Middle East" is the topic of a lecture by Dr. Eytan Giboa, a commentator on Israeli television and radio, tomorrow at 10 a.m. in B26 and 11 a.m. in LS107.

Everyone is invited to attend. More information may be obtained by contacting Leo Garapedian at ext. 273.

NUCLEAR FREEZE SPEAKER AT FACULTY SENATE

Speaking at the Faculty Senate meeting today at 11 a.m. will be a representative from the Bilateral Nuclear Freeze Campaign. Those faculty members wishing to sign proxy cards urging congress to cut in half the testing and production of nuclear weapons can do so at the meeting. The signature cards will be hand-delivered to senators and congresspersons on April 22.

Proxy signature cards are also available at the information desk in the administration building.

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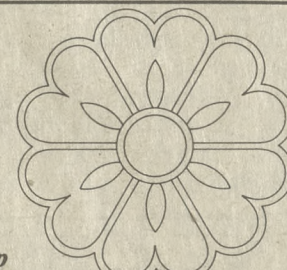
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Job Fair offers students opportunities

(Continued from page 1)

friend, and is hoping to land a data entry or data control position.

"You're either under-qualified or over-qualified," said Flagg while submitting her resume to such companies as Litton Computer Services and Thor.

Many companies handed out key chains, pens, pencils, corkscrews and tote bags displaying their name. All of the personnel people and recruiting officers were eager to

answer questions and give out information and applications.

Assistance to the Disabled for Employment, Placement and Training was present to offer free employment counseling to the disabled.

Those interested in fashion design were given brochures from the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, which offers certificates and advanced study programs in those fields.

Students in the medical field were informed of openings at the Veterans Administration Medical Center from dental assistant to nuclear medicine technician.

Various banking positions were also available through Security Pacific Bank, Crocker Bank and Valley Federal Savings.

Some of the vocational programs at Valley were also represented.

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Diamond leader directs traffic

By TERRI MODJALLAL, Staff Writer

It is catcher Paul Cottrell's last baseball season at Valley College. After four semesters of hitting the books and the ball, Cottrell will get his AA in economics and move on to bigger fields.

Though the Monarchs didn't start this season with much promise, Cottrell has faith in the team.

"Don't count us out yet," he said. No matter how the team places, Cottrell has already established a reputation for himself as an outstanding all-around player. His batting average is .300.

"He is one of our star batters," said head coach Scott Mukey. "You can depend on him when the game's on the line."

Cottrell agrees he is, "one of the more consistent batters."

He has been catcher both of his years at Valley. It is his favorite and only position.

"If I couldn't play catcher, I wouldn't play," he said.

Cottrell grew up in the San Fernando Valley and attended Notre Dame High School. He played football, soccer, and above all, baseball. He was catcher all four years, and his playing earned him a scholarship to CSUN. Cottrell didn't like the baseball program at Northridge, however, and

left after one year.

"I didn't fit into the way they wanted the catcher to play," he said.

Cottrell, age 21, is the youngest of five boys in a very baseball-oriented family. One of his brothers is a pitcher in the San Francisco Giants farm organization, and hopes to break into the big leagues. Another played catcher for Valley four years ago, and went on to play for the Minnesota Twins. Following his brothers' lead, the youngest Cottrell transferred from CSUN to Valley, where he found "a more relaxed atmosphere."

Whenever they can, Cottrell's family comes to his games. He appreciates the support, saying their attendance makes it, "more fun to play." To have fans cheering the team on, "puts more excitement into it, especially at home games," he said.

Besides having either practice or a game six days a week, Cottrell takes 19 units at school and holds a part-time job. On Sunday, his only day off, he usually plays pool, bowls, or heads for the beach.

He used to snow ski, but, he hasn't lately because, "the coach would kill me to risk getting hurt!"

Cottrell hopes that playing ball at Valley will get him enough recogni-

tion to attain a scholarship to a university in the midwest like Texas or Oklahoma. Where he ends up will depend on how he plays this year, and which school makes him the best offer.

"It's like being offered a full ride or three-fourths of a ride," he said. "The full ride is more persuasive."

From a university, Cottrell wants to sign with a team and play professional ball.

Though it's a hard decision, Cottrell says his favorite team is the New York Yankees. He says he usually looks at individual players, the ones who do the most for a team, like the Montreal Expos' catcher, Gary Carter.

Catcher is a very demanding position to play, he said, mentally and physically. Cottrell must hold the catching position for games that last up to four hours.

Twice he has torn the ligaments in his knees, but he tries not to worry about the possibility of permanent damage.

The catcher is also the field captain, and calls the pitches to the pitcher. Half the time Cottrell looks to the coach for the signal, but the rest of the time he is on his own.

Cottrell feels his ability to call a pitch comes from having played ball for so long.

"You pick up on what a pitcher's best pitch is and what a batter is going to do," he said, "and then you set him up."

The pitcher will sometimes shake off a signal, he said, but usually follows the catcher. Then, sometimes a pitcher will fake shaking off a pitch and follow the catcher. As if that isn't complicated enough, Cottrell works with seven different pitchers on Valley's team.

Cottrell feels that the team has a shot at the State play-offs. He thinks that under coach Mukey, they are improving.

"He (Mukey) definitely turned the team around," Cottrell said.

He also feels that the team is starting to play offensively, rather than defensively.

He's hoping Valley will, "surprise a lot of people." He said he wants another chance at beating Cerritos, which is ranked number one in the league and beat the Monarchs earlier in the season.

If the whole team plays with his consistency, Cottrell's last season at Valley will definitely be a winner.



TONGUE AND CHEEK—Catcher Paul Cottrell hopes his last season will bring a winner to Valley.

BARBIE LANGE / Valley Star

Valley falls short

By ISAAC DELGADO, Staff Writer

The Valley College women's softball team put together a six-run sixth inning, but still lost to Hancock 10 to 7 Wednesday afternoon.

On the verge of calling it a day, the women started to do what their opponents had been doing to them the whole game by taking advantage of walks and getting some timely hits. Nita Rallas spear-headed the rally with her dare-devil base running, and Diane Batham capped it off by belting a two-run home run over the Hancock leftfielder's head.

Valley actually out-hit Hancock by a six to four margin, but the real difference in the game were the walks and errors. Valley had the dubious honor of leading in those categories.

Diane Batham was pitching a fine ballgame, and was trailing only two to one at the top of the fifth inning. But then she began to tire, and giving up 3 walks and 2 hits which, along with a dropped third strike by catcher Kerry Barnett, gave Hancock a six-one lead.

Valley didn't score in their half of the inning and the situation got worse for Batham and her teammates in the sixth, when three out of the first four Hancock batters reached base safely.

Batham was replaced by Maggie Blah who got through the rest of the inning, but not before Hancock scored four more runs, making the score ten to one. Two of the runs



SCRAMBLE—Kerry Barnett pursues a foul ball.

SCOTT DUBINSKY / Valley Star

came home on a throwing error by third basewoman Sheryl Gunion—her second of the game.

As the sun was going down, Valley's run production started going up. The Valley team scored six runs in the big sixth inning and

looked like they had all the momentum as Blah set down Hancock one, two, three in the top of the seventh. But it wasn't to be as Valley also failed to score in the last inning.

The loss makes Valley 0 and 2 in league play.

Women's track tramples opponents

By SUZANNE HAYNES, Staff Writer

The Valley College women's track team gave another one of their stellar performances at L.A. Trade Tech last Friday afternoon. The Monarch women trounced Trade Tech and West Los Angeles College 84-42-26.

In the last three years the women's team has only lost three meets, and according to head coach Mark Covert, "We won't lose a meet this season."

"They're a good group—consistently good," he said. "The best in the conference."

The 400-meter relay team of Trudy Johnson, La Tanda Hardy, Jennifer Wooten, and Felicia Skaggs breezed to a first place finish with a time of 51.3 seconds.

Trudy Johnson turned in fine performances in both the 100-meter hurdles and the 200-meter dash, placing first in both events.

Wooten won the long jump and placed second in the 100-meter dash. She also placed second to Johnson in the 200-meter dash.

Felicia Skaggs chalked up another win for the women in the 400-meter open event. Meg Morley won the high jump with a mark of 5 feet.

Versatility seems to be a key ingredient of the women's success. A case in point would be the number of double winners in each of the events. Morley won the 400-meter hurdles, and placed second in the long jump and in the 100-meter hurdles.

Covert attributes the women's consistent success to "hard work all week long and always making the extra effort."

Eugene Cruz and Raymond Brooks helped pace the men's track team to a 75-53-33 victory over Trade Tech and West L.A.

Would you buy a used car from this coach?

By MARC PROVAL, Staff Writer

It's fairly common knowledge in sports today that no matter how great a motivator or strategist a coach is, he can't win without the great player. Look at Napoleon at Waterloo or Gen. Custard at Little Big Horn. Need I remind you what happened to them?

An example closer to home is Stan Morrison, head basketball coach over at USC. Morrison was constantly in the long and dark shadow of his friends across town in Westwood. Most critics pinned SC's horrendous play over the years to the beleaguered Morrison and demanded his pink slip.

This year Morrison finally has some decent ball players and they're winning. Now Morrison's a genius. Did Morrison sell his soul to the

devil or did he see the Great Basketball Coach in the Sky for some advice?

None of the above. What Morrison did was some serious recruiting. Recruiting. The word sends chills up coach's spines. Most coaches dread it. Few enjoy it. But it is the key to sustaining a successful program, and all coaches realize that.

"Some coaches worry about the field condition or the weather they'll be playing in," wrote ex-USC, ex-Tampa Bay Buccaneer coach John McKay in his book *McKay*, "but give me the best players and I wouldn't mind playing you in Nome, Alaska."

Over the recent years, headlines on the sports pages across the country have been filled with stories of

NCAA handing out sanctions against major universities for violating recruiting laws. Coaches have resembled used car salesmen more than coaches.

"Look a here. University of Encino. Ain't she a beauty! Take a look at the stadium. 100,000 of your closest friends can see you play. Mom and dad can't make it to the game? Just tell them to pop on channel 7 and they can see their favorite offspring."

"What, you don't have a job? We got you covered there. There just happens to be an opening for some one to cut the grass on the football field. I know we have artificial turf but the job pays ten bucks an hour! Just sign on the dotted line and you are set for the next four years!"

How could you say no?

In the old days, a player would choose the school he would attend by its academic record. No longer. The only record that counts today is the won-lost record.

Recruiting at the junior college level is a serious business too. Competition for athletes that for one reason or another were passed over by universities is fast and furious. It has to be.

But there is one major difference between the J.C.'s and universities deal with recruiting. There are no free cars, no easy cash, no T.V. coverage, no fame or glory on the J.C. level. There are no big promises. Just alot of work and sweat.

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